Charging of Licence fee from Mobile Operators

† 964. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal is being considered to collect seventeen percent of the total annual income of mobile operators in private sector as annual licence fee;

(b) whether Government intend to implement the said proposal; and

(c) if so, the comprehensive details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Sir, as per the recommendations received from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 23.6.2000, the Annual Licence Fee to be paid by Mobile Phone Operators should be 17% of the 'Adjusted Gross Revenue* (except for Andman and Nicobar and Jammu and Kashmir Circles where Annual Licence Fee as 10% of the 'Adjusted Gross Revenue' has been recommended). The Government is considering the recommendations of TRAI. A final decision on revenue share percentage is yet to be taken. The recommendations of TRAI are available on 'trai. govin' web site.

Provision of Telephone connections in Rural and Urban Areas of Bihar

† 956. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections targeted to be given in rural and urban areas in Bihar during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) what have been the achievements in this regard during the years 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 so far; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Govenrment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.